

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD Pt. 3

1. God is SOVEREIGN.

- a. **God's sovereignty means** that God possesses supreme POWER and AUTHORITY so that He is in absolute & ultimate CONTROL and can accomplish whatever He PLEASES.
- b. **God is sovereign... because of His POSITION** (Ps. 97:1; 99:1-3; 103:19; 113:1-6; Dan. 4:17, 25, 34-35), because of His POWER (2 Chron. 20:6; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:3, because of His PLEASURE (Ps. 115:3; 135:5-6; Eph. 1:5, 9), which is borne out by His PROVIDENCE (Esther).
- c. **God's sovereignty extends ... over MAN** (1 Samuel 2:6-8), over NATIONS (Gen. 15:16; Deut. 7:6-8; Hab. 1:6), over HISTORY (Daniel 2; Ps. 135:5-12), over NATURE. (Matthew 6:45), over ANGELS (Psalm 103:20), over SATAN (Job 1:6-12), and over SIN (Gen. 45:5-8; 50:20)

Thus, God is still on the throne of the universe & is working out His plan for human history that will ultimately and rightly GLORIFY Himself and BLESS undeserving mankind by God's amazing and incredible GRACE because of Jesus Christ.

d. We must guard against the imbalance of ...

- (1) **erroneously thinking that while God controls history, He must CONDONE sin & evil.**
(James 1:13)
- (2) **viewing His sovereignty apart from His other ATTRIBUTES like omniscience. (1 Pet. 1:2)**
- (2) **failing to recognize that God has a PERFECT and PERMISSIVE will that is PRINCIPLED (stated in His Word), PERSONAL, and PROVIDENTIAL.**
- (3) **viewing God's sovereignty as fatalistic instead of DETERMINED, RELATIONAL, and RESPONSIVE.**
- (4) **theological systems like CALVINISM, ARMINIANISM, or OPEN THEISM.**

e. Though God is sovereign

- (1) **this does not dismiss human or angelic _____ for _____.**
 - Did not God permit the Fall of Satan and man yet still remain sovereign?
 - Why did He allow volition? What is the cause of Satan's and man's original sin?
 - Has not God declared certain consequences for rebellion or obedience, along with determining their outcome and final destiny? (Genesis 2:16-17; John 3:18; Rev. 20:10-15)
 - Does not God still permit rebellion against His plan & purposes by Satan (with his demons) and by mankind yet still remain sovereign, though there are appropriate consequences positively or negatively that result? (Gal. 6:7-9; 1 Sam. 2:30; Heb. 10:38, 11:6; 1 Cor.3:11-15)
Doesn't God in His sovereignty have the right to give mankind choices within limits?

- Does “total depravity” (scripturally understood) mean “total inability to believe”? (Isa.1:3-6, 18-20, 53:5-6; Acts 16:31; Rom. 6:17-18)
- Is “faith” the gift of God? (Phil. 1:29; Eph. 2:8; 2 Peter 1:1; Luke 7:50; Rom. 1:8; Rom. 4:4-5; 1 Cor. 2:5; 1 Thess. 1:8-9)

(2) this should not cause us to fail to recognize GOD’S part and MAN’S choices regarding ...

(a) The *death of Jesus Christ*: Jesus Christ willingly died and rose again in keeping with the _____ plan & purposes, though certain individuals were held specifically _____ for His death. (1 Peter 1:18-20; Acts 2:22-24; 4:24-28)

(b) The *salvation of man*:

- **God’s part:** the Father _____ the plan (Acts 2:22-24), Jesus Christ willingly came to Earth and _____ for our sins and _____ (John 10: 11,17-18) to provide salvation for all as a gift, while the Holy Spirit _____ the world. (2 Cor. 4:4; Jn 16:7-11)

- **Man’s part:** whoever _____ to _____ in Jesus Christ alone as presented in the Gospel is _____ (Acts 16:31), _____ (Acts 10:43) and receives _____ (Jn 3:16) which he/she can be absolutely _____ of because of Christ finished work & God’s promises (1 John 5:13).

- **The biblical balance:** While mankind is spiritually _____ and unable to save themselves from the penalty of their sins through their own efforts, works or religious rituals, God has chosen to display His grace by _____ (John 6:44) and _____ those who choose to _____ to Jesus Christ by faith in Him alone (Matt. 11:28; John 5:39-40, 6:35-40; Revelation 22:16-17).

Thus, _____ does the initiating, planning, providing, drawing, and convicting, while each sinner must _____ to either receive (by faith) or reject Jesus Christ resulting in eternal salvation or condemnation. (Jn. 3:17-18; 3:36)

- So how does this apply to you?